

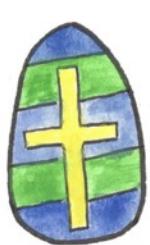
BECAUSE OF JESUS

10 Days

OF

Easter

Family Devotions



# A note about this family devotional,

Hi there, I'm Maddi, from [fielekefrontporch.com](http://fielekefrontporch.com), and I wrote this devotional for our family to use this year to prepare our hearts for Easter. Our children are 7, 5 & 2. So they each have different capacities to understand the Gospel and God's Word. Our hope is that as we wake up earlier than normal, and sit around the breakfast table reading God's Word and talking about Him, all of us would grow in our own unique way.

Picture the quintessential perfect family sitting around a table with well-mannered children diligently studying God's word. Ok now scratch that because that will **NOT** be us. Our kids will be rowdy, only half paying attention at times, and I would imagine we will miss a day or two entirely. That's totally ok with us. In fact, that will be us giving our best. I invite you to jump in too, and be entirely ok with whatever your family's best will be. This is why I included coloring pages for each day, so that their busy hands can work while we talk as a family!

I want to let you know ahead of time that two of our children have made decisions to trust Jesus as Lord of their lives. Because of that, much of this material will be true about them as they have been made new in Christ. If your children haven't made that decision yet, they can still participate in this study! I would just encourage you to talk to them about how none of these things are true of anyone's life **until we surrender our life to Jesus and trust him as Risen Lord who died for our sins and rose victoriously from the grave that we might have abundant life in Him.**

I didn't write this with the intention of being a thorough Bible Study but rather a discussion guide to lead each of our families toward Jesus as we adore Him together. If you have questions or uncertainty about some of the questions, I would suggest a Study Bible to help you understand a certain scripture better. We often tell our kids, "I don't know" and then we look for answers together.

I hope you and your families enjoy this material as you ready your hearts for celebrating our Resurrected King. He is risen. He is risen, indeed. And may all of us never tire of celebrating the resurrection as the best news of our entire lives.

**Because of Jesus,**

**Maddi**

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# Because of Jesus, I am God's Friend.

Read Romans 5:10-11

*For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.*

When were we God's enemies and why?

What makes Jesus a great friend?

What are ways we can rejoice in our relationship with God?

Pray together, "Jesus thank you that our sin doesn't make us God's enemies anymore. You are a kind friend, Jesus. Thank you for making us best friends with God."

## Day 1

# Because of Jesus, I have everlasting life.

Read Romans 8:11

*If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.*

Who raised Jesus from the dead?

How can we know if God's Spirit lives in us?

What makes you thankful to have God's Spirit living in you?

Pray together, "Thank you, Jesus, that you defeated death. And thank you for promising everlasting life to those who love you. We are grateful, Jesus!"

## Day 2

# Because of Jesus, I'm not dead in my sin anymore.

Read Ephesians 2:4-6

*But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus*

When we were dead in our sin, why did God make us alive in Christ?

What are some ways that you were once dead in your sin?

God saved us through His grace. What is grace?

Pray together, “Thank you God that we are not dead in our sin anymore. We used to be stuck and you rescued us. Thank you that we didn’t have to earn our rescue - you saved us with a gift that we didn’t deserve.”

## Day 3

# Because of Jesus, the Holy Spirit lives in me.

Read John 14:16-17

*And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.*

What words does Jesus use to describe the Holy Spirit?

What does a helper do? How is the Holy Spirit our Helper?

If the Holy Spirit lives in us, are we ever alone?

Pray together, “Jesus thank you for sending us the best Helper ever. Thank you that He is the Spirit of Truth so we can know your truth. We are so grateful that we are never alone!”

## Day 4

# Because of Jesus, I have been raised to new life.

Read Colossians 1:1-2

*If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth.*

What does it mean to you to be raised with Christ?

What are some things you think about a lot that won't last forever?

What are some eternal things (things that will last forever and ever) we can think about and treasure?

Pray together, "God, we are so thankful that when you raised Christ from the dead, you made a way for us to be raised to new life. Now we don't have to be stuck thinking about worldly success and stuff. God help us to treasure things that will last forever like faith, hope, and love."

## Day 5

# Because of Jesus, my life is hidden with Christ in God.

Read Colossians 3:3-4

*For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.*

What does it mean when it says, "You have died." (hint, remember what we learned on Day 3.)

Who does the verse say our whole life should be centered on?

According to this verse, when Jesus comes back for us one day, who will be with him?

Pray together, "Jesus, you are the center of our entire lives. Sometimes we forget and focus on other people and things a little too much. Thank you for your promise that we will be with you both now and forever! Help us to focus on who you are today!"

## Day 6

# Because of Jesus, I will be raised up on the last day.

Read John 6:39-40 (Jesus is talking)

*And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should lose nothing of all that he has given me, but raise it up on the last day. For this is the will of my Father, that everyone who looks on the Son and believes in him should have eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day.*

What or who do you think God has given Jesus?

According to this verse, how can we live with God forever, both on earth and in heaven when we die?

According to this verse, will believers of Jesus stay dead when their earthly lives are over?

Pray together, “We are grateful, God, that you’ve given us to Jesus to be saved. We are excited for eternity with you Jesus! Your love makes our hearts so full!”

## Day 7

# Because of Jesus, I have died to sin.

Read 1 Peter 2:24

*He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.*

Do you know where wood comes from? What was the cross Jesus died on made of?

When Jesus died on the cross, what did he make possible for us?

Our sin was like wounds that needed healing. What does a doctor do to a wound? How is Jesus a lot like a doctor, in that way?

Pray together, “Jesus, our sin used to make us sad in so many ways. We wanted to do what was right, but we still did wrong all the time. We were selfish and didn’t obey you. Thank you that you died on the cross & forgave our sins. We are thankful that our sin-wounds have been healed!”

## Day 8

## Because of Jesus, I have become the righteousness of God.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:21

*For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.*

Did Jesus ever sin? (to sin is to fall short of being perfect like God)

Have you ever sinned?

Even though we have sinned, why does God see us as perfect, in Jesus?

Pray together, “God, our sin would have kept us from knowing you. But you didn’t leave us! Instead, you came and lived a perfect life, died in our place, and give us the gift of being called righteous! Thank you Jesus!”

## Day 9

## Because of Jesus, I can share the Resurrection Life with others.

Read 2 Corinthians 5:18-19

*All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation.*

Reconcile means to make a relationship right again. Have you ever needed reconciliation with a family member or friend?

Why is it good news that our relationship with God has been made right through Jesus?

What message has been entrusted to us? How can we share that message with others?

Pray together, “God, it is so wonderful to have a relationship with you. You forgive us, you fill us with your Spirit, and you will be our Father forever and ever. Help us to share this wonderful message with people in our lives!

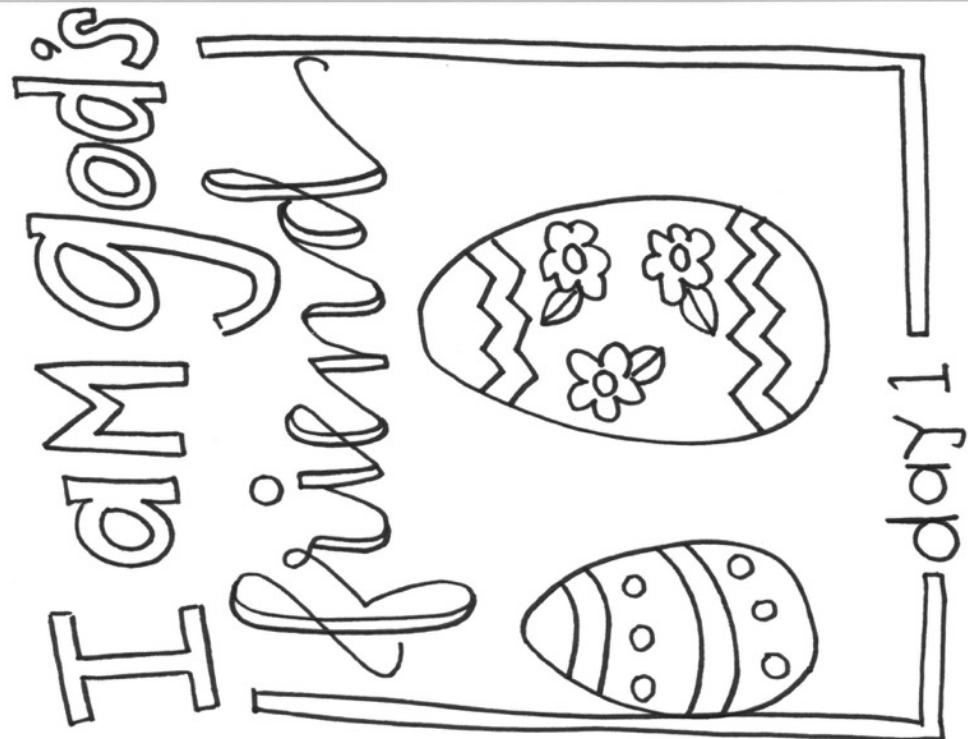
## Day 10

Because of Jesus,



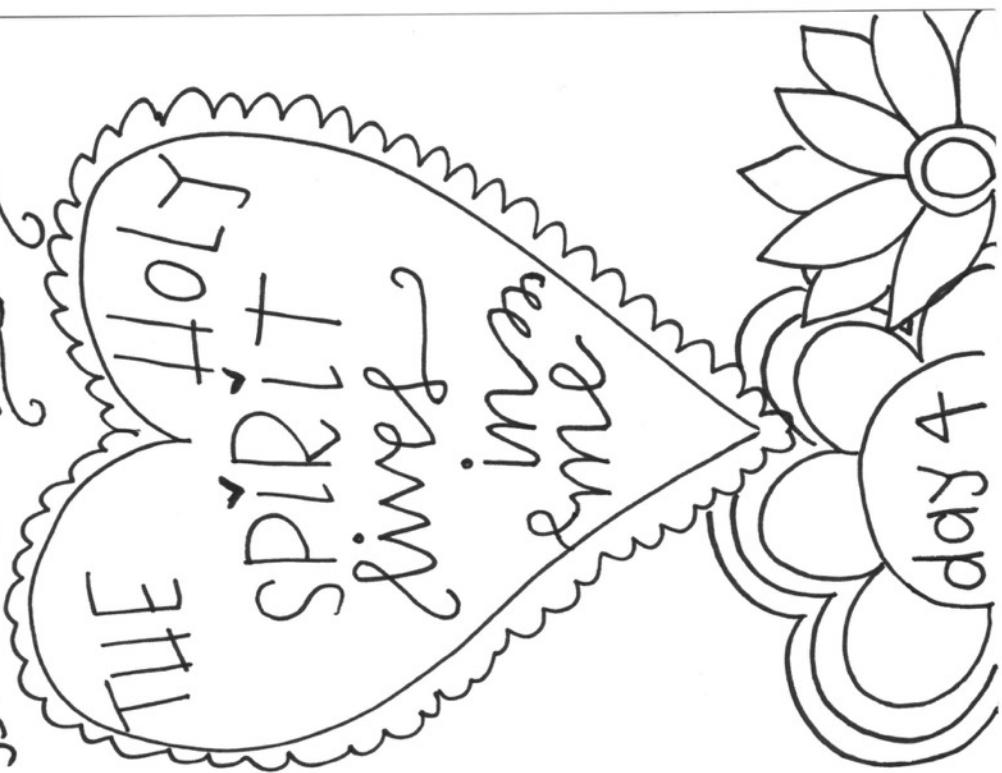
day 2

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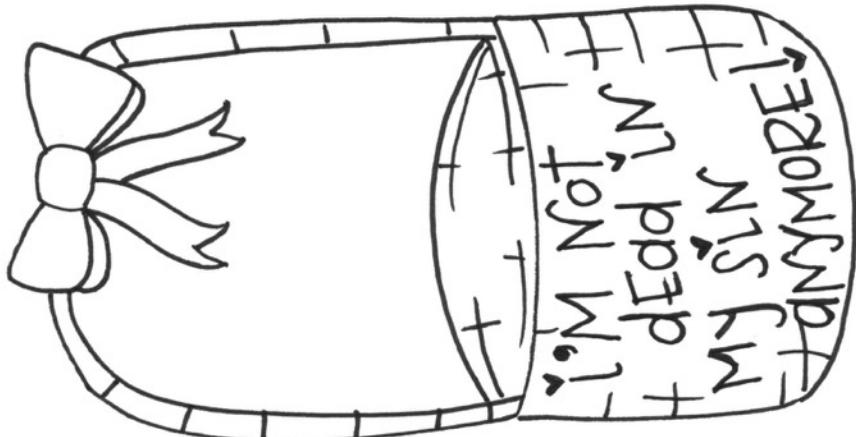


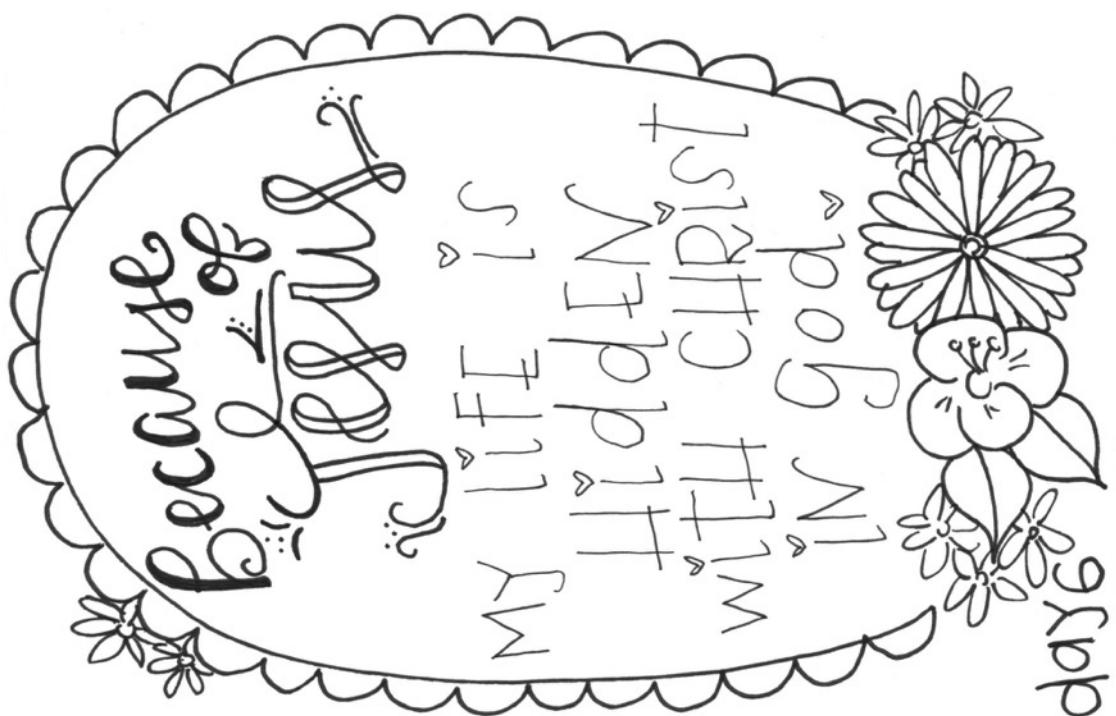
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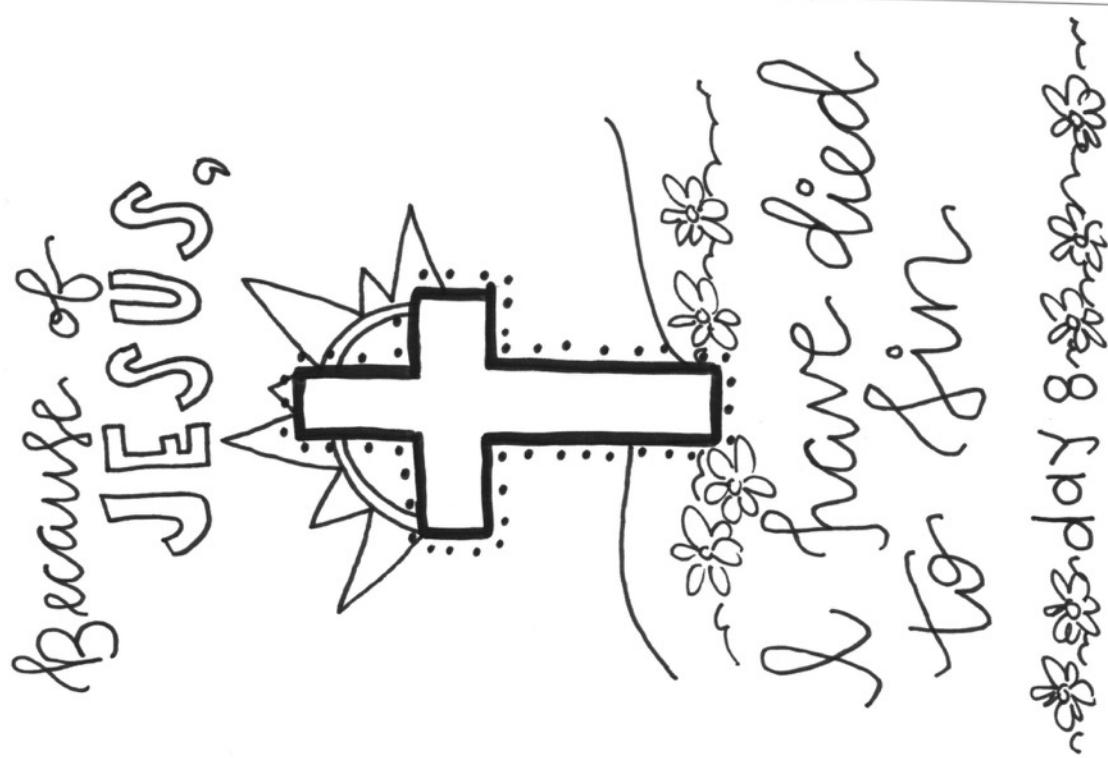
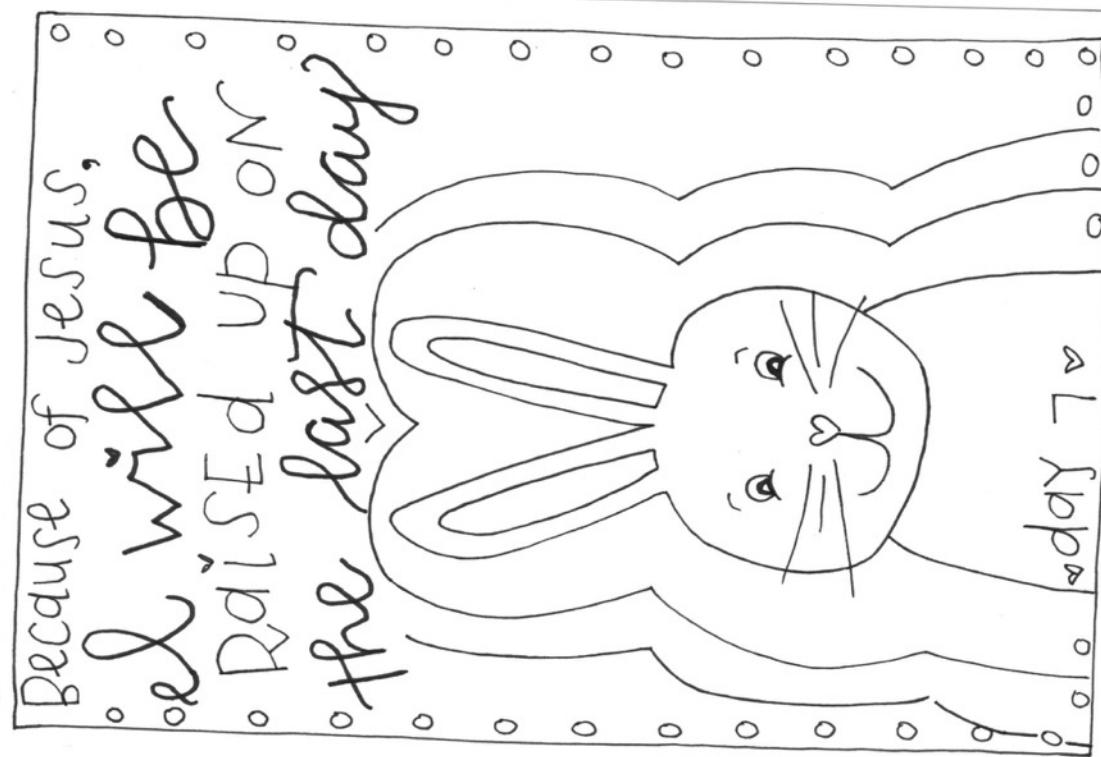
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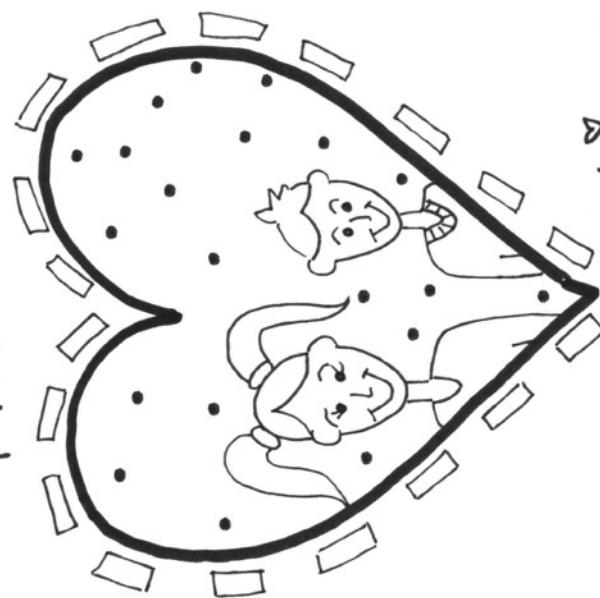
Because of Jesus,







Because of JESUS,  
CAN SHADE  
THE



Because JESUS  
LIVE WITH OTHERS!  
a day 10

Because of JESUS,  
I have become  
like fire.  
All



day 9